

Agilent Ref: 10004108-1
United States Application Serial No. 10/037,767

In the claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An array assembly comprising:
 - (a) a plastic base layer;
 - (b) a glass layer forward of the base layer; **and**
 - (c) an array of polymers having a pattern of features on a front surface of the glass layer; **and**
 - (d) **a layer between the base and glass layers that blocks at least 10% of an illuminating light incident on said front surface from reaching said plastic base layer;**

wherein said array assembly is flexible.
2. (Original) An array assembly according to claim 1 wherein the polymers are biopolymers.
3. (Currently Amended) An array assembly according to claim 1 **additionally comprising an opaque layer between the base and glass layers wherein said layer between the base and glass layers is opaque.**
4. (Currently Amended) An array assembly according to claim 1 **additionally comprising a reflective layer between the base and glass layers wherein said layer between the base and glass layer is reflective.**
5. (Original) An array assembly according to claim 4 wherein the reflective layer comprises a metal.
6. (Original) An array assembly according to claim 4 wherein the reflective layer comprises multiple layers of dielectric materials.
7. (Currently Amended) An array assembly according to claim 4 wherein the glass layer has a thickness of 40-200 nm.

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8. (Original) An array assembly according to claim 4 wherein the plastic base layer has a fluorescence of at least ten reference units.
9. (Original) An array assembly according to claim 4 wherein the plastic base layer absorbs at least 10% of light at 532 nm incident on a front surface of the assembly.
10. (Original) An array assembly according to claim 1 additionally comprising an identifier on a back surface of the plastic base layer.
11. (Cancelled)
12. (Original) An array assembly according to claim 1, wherein the assembly is in the form of an elongated web.
13. (Original) An array assembly according to claim 12 with multiple arrays disposed along the front surface of the glass layer.
14. (Currently amended) A method of fabricating an a flexible array assembly ~~using~~ comprising:
providing a plastic base layer with a glass layer bound thereto at a position forward of the plastic base layer and a layer between the base and glass layers that blocks at least 10% of an illuminating light incident on a front surface of said glass layer from reaching said plastic base layer; and ~~the method~~ comprising:
forming an array of polymers having a pattern of features on a front surface of the glass layer.
15. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 14 wherein ~~there is a reflective~~ the layer between the base and glass layers is reflective.

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16. (Currently Amended) A method of claim 14 ~~claim 15~~ wherein the layer between the base and glass layers comprises a metal.
17. (Original) A method of claim 16 wherein the layer comprises multiple layers of dielectric materials.
18. (Original) A method according to claim 14 wherein the glass layer has a thickness of 0.40 to 200 nm.
19. (Currently Amended) ~~An array-assembly~~ A method according to claim 14 ~~claim-15~~ wherein the plastic base layer has a fluorescence of at least ten reference units.
20. (Original) A method according to claim 14 additionally comprising forming an identifier on a back surface of the plastic base layer.
21. (Cancelled)
22. (Original) A method according to claim 14, wherein the assembly is in the form of an elongated web.
23. (Original) A method according to claim 14 wherein multiple arrays are formed by depositing drops onto the front surface of the glass layer, which contain the polymers or polymer precursor units.
24. (Original) A method according to claim 23 wherein the polymers are polynucleotides or peptides.
25. (Cancelled)
26. (New) A method according to claim 14 wherein the layer between the base and glass layers is opaque.